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BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF

CHARLES J. EVERS, M.D.

Medical Officer of Health

AND

GEORGE G. CULMER

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1941

VOILE & ROBERSON, FAVERSHAM.

1942

BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1941

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM.

I have now the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for 1941 on the Health Conditions of the Borough. There are no special features to comment upon. The amount of Infectious Disease was small; the usual Influenza appeared in the spring; it was rather mild, and few deaths were certified as due to it.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

The same officials are carrying on.

NATURE AND CONDITION OF THE AREA

Area of the District in Acres: 3,070.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE AREA

These remain unchanged.

The traffic in the Creek has been interfered with by the war to some extent, especially that from abroad, which has practically disappeared.

Rateable Value of the Borough ...	...	£70,676/0/0
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	£272/1/7

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

There were 163 live births registered during the year—91 males and 72 females. This gives a Birth-rate of 14.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population—the average of England and Wales being 14.2. This is more than in 1940, when the total number was 139. There were 16 illegitimate births (boys 10, girls 6); none of these children died. There were 4 still births registered (2 male and 2 female); one of these was illegitimate.

DEATHS

The number actually registered was 255. From this must be deducted the deaths of 109 persons who belonged to other districts. On the other side we must add 19 deaths in other districts that must be ascribed to this district, as follows:—

Chartham Mental Hospital	...	...	...	...	4
Canterbury Hospital	...	...	...	...	5
Other Hospitals	...	...	...	...	4
Other Districts	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculosis Sanatoria	...	...	...	...	3
					<hr/> 19

There were 154 deaths in Public Institutions in the district—135 in Bensted House, 8 in the Cottage Hospital, and 11 in the Nursing Homes. There were 4 deaths of children under one year of age, and 152 of persons of the age of 65 and upwards.

The result is a net total of 165 deaths. This gives for the Borough a Death-rate for the year 1941 of 14.5, which is above the average for the whole kingdom, which is given as 12.9, but lower than in 1940.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The number of deaths under one year of age was 4 (all females), as against 8 in the previous year. This gives a ratio of 24.5 per 1,000 births, against 28 in 1940. The average for the whole country is 59. One illegitimate infant died during the year.

CAUSES OF INFANTILE DEATHS

Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Premature Birth and Congenital Causes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infantile Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	0

CAUSES OF DEATH

	1941	1940
Enteric Fever	0	0
Measles	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0
Influenza	4	3
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9	7
Tuberculous Meningitis	0	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	2

CAUSES OF DEATH—Continued

Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	23	27
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	41	47
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	12	12
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	8	11
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	3	5
Diarrhoeal Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	4	10
Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Premature Birth and Congenital Causes	...	...	...	...	...	0	4
Accidents and Suicides	...	...	...	...	...	4	12
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	27	12
Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	7	2
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	17	8

Live Births— Total. M. F.

Legitimate ... 147 81 66

Illegitimate .. 6 10 6

Stillbirths ... 4 2 2

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated
resident population ... 14.3Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)
births ... 14.1

Deaths ... 165 81 84

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated
resident population ... 14.5Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-
General's short list):—Deaths. Rate per 1,000 total
(live and still) births.

No. 29—Puerperal sepsis ... 0

No. 30—Other puerperal causes ... 0

Total ... 0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 24.5

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 27.2

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... —

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 23

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 0

Deaths from Whooping Cough ... 0

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... 1

COTTAGE HOSPITAL

Beds, 18.

In-Patients Treated ... 208

Out-Patients Treated (Minor Cases) ... 348

Operations—

Major ... 78

Minor ... 143

X-Ray Cases ... 156

There is also a Provident Dispensary which arranges for the
treatment of poor people in their own homes.

HEALTH SERVICES

These are the same as in previous Reports.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service has been maintained at its usual high state of efficiency on the same lines as in 1940.

The personnel have given an immense amount of time to Civil Defence work, which, as during the past two or three years, is additional to their usual activities.

Patients removed	...	...	...	...	...	396
Road Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	11
Total Mileage	...	...	...	...	...	7,373

In addition to their Transport work, the members of the Nursing Division have made numerous attendances at the Hospital and the various School, Welfare and Maternity Clinics throughout the year.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES

There are two private Nursing Homes in the Borough, which are licensed for the reception of Maternity Cases.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

This has been established for some years and is held at the Gospel Hall, having been open 62 days. Three hundred and sixty-four children are in regular attendance.

An Ante-natal Clinic is held on Tuesdays, and has had a total of 118 attendances, and was open 12 times. Sixty-three mothers attended.

TREATMENT CASES AND HOME NURSING

These remain as before.

LOCAL ACTS, ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYELAWS

No alteration.

WATER SUPPLY

As in my last Report.

Samples taken:—

Chemical Analysis—Public Supply	...	...	...	3
Wells	...	...	...	2
Bacteriological Tests—Public Supply	...	...	...	6

All with satisfactory results.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewerage and sewage disposal arrangements are as in my last Report; no further deep sewers have been laid down.

The conversion of Privies into Water Closets with flushing cisterns is proceeding also.

Number of Houses in the Borough	...	...	...	3727
Number of Fresh-water Closets	...	...	...	3606
Number of Privies (movable receptacles)	...	...	...	110
Number of Privies (fixed receptacles)	...	...	...	10
Conversions into Water Closets	...	...	...	0

HOUSE REFUSE AND SCAVENGING

Same as last year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

None.

HOME WORKERS

Very little; two lists of out-workers sent in.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

As before.

FACTORIES

Number of premises on the Register:—

Factories with power	...	...	...	...	...	40
Factories without power	...	...	...	...	...	41
						<hr/> 81

The occupations carried on in these places show no change from previous reports.

These have all been regularly inspected, and kept up to a proper standard of cleanliness and ventilation and provision of proper sanitary conveniences, and overcrowding has been prevented.

SCHOOLS

The five Schools in the Borough remain as before in their situations and sanitary arrangements.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

Regular inspection, as required by the Board of Education, has been carried out on the children entering school, and also at the ages of 8 and 13. Re-examinations and special examinations have also been made as necessary, the total number of children examined amounting to 1,005.

The School Clinics and their arrangements have been continued throughout the year on the same lines as previously.

Statistics of work done:—

Tonsils and Adenoids—Operated on	...	...	...	20
Eye Cases—Examinations	...	...	...	32
Re-examinations	...	...	...	44
Glasses Prescribed	...	...	...	45
Glasses Repaired	...	...	...	7
Dental Treatment—Children	...	...	...	474
Sessions	...	...	...	156
Attendances	...	...	...	1006
Extractions	...	...	...	961
Fillings	...	...	...	675
General Anæsthetics	...	...	...	336
Orthopædic Scheme—Cases	...	...	...	8
Minor Ailments Clinic—Sessions	...	...	...	257
Children Treated	...	...	...	409
Visits by School Nurse	...	...	...	291

SUPPLY OF MILK

This has been carried on by the Education Committee. All children that need milk are having it—many twice a day.

NUTRITION

The Nutrition Survey has been continued and records kept of under-nourished children; the results are very encouraging.

A.R.P. Shelters have been provided.

HOUSING

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

MILK SUPPLY

The milk supply of the Borough was formerly obtained chiefly from outside its boundaries, but the enlargement of the area has now included some of these sources within the Borough itself. We have now:—

Producers of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	6
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	...	10
Registered Premises	...	...	...	...	...	15
Samples sent for examination	...	...	...	...	...	26

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There were 8 in the Borough; but 7 were discontinued for the duration of the war.

Details of Meat Inspection are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

BAKEHOUSES

No change from last Report.

RAG FLOCK ACTS AND FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Same conditions as in 1938.

WORKING OF SHOPS ACT, 1934

Inspection under this heading has been limited, as the Inspector has been absorbed into A.R.P. duties.

No complaints have been received under the Acts.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The amount of Influenza during the past year was about as usual and of a moderate type; 4 deaths have been attributed to it. The total number of notifications is more than in 1940, viz.: 459, as against 52.

This increase is entirely due to epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough, both of which were made notifiable. Fortunately, no deaths from them are recorded.

Our arrangements for dealing with infection are the same as previously.

Specimens sent to County Laboratory:—

					Positive	Negative
Diphtheria	...	...	...	53	3	50
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	43	9	34
Typhoid	...	...	...	3	1	2
Strept Haemolytic	...	...	...	16	3	13
				115	16	99

There were 459 cases of infectious disease notified under all headings in 1941, as against 52 in 1940. Of these, 27 cases were removed to Isolation Hospitals. These are classified as follows:—

	Notified		Removed to Hospital	
	1940	1941	1940	1941
Diphtheria	1	10	1	10
Erysipelas	12	7	0	1
Scarlet Fever	6	10	5	7
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid)	0	1	0	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0	1
Anterior Polio Myelitis ...	2	2	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	4	2	3	1
Ophthalmia, Neonatorum .	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	M.9	M.7	M.8	M.0
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary ...	F.7	F.11	F.3	F.2
Tuberculosis, other forms .	M.0	M.1	M.2	M.1
Tuberculosis, other forms .	F.1	F.2	F.2	F.3
Pneumonia	5	6	0	0
Measles	2	314	0	0
Whooping Cough	2	85	0	0
	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 459	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 27

There were 8 deaths from Pneumonia and 9 deaths certified from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. I received during the year 14 notifications under Form 1, and 13 under Form 2.

No action has had to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No case of Tuberculosis has been found not to be notified; it has not been found necessary to take any action in this direction. No action has been taken for disinfection of Bugs.

ANTI-DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

A scheme for this was drawn up and set in action with the co-operation of the local medical men, and proved very successful; by the end of the year over 1,300 children had been immunised and arrangements have been made for continuation of the process. I am much indebted to the personnel at the Mount F.A.P. for their help and co-operation. As susceptibility to Diphtheria is highest in the early years of life, I must strongly impress upon parents the desirability of having their children immunised at the age of one year, which can be done free of charge to them.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Cases

	Age Groups—Cases										Notified 0	Treated at Home 0	Treated in Hospital 0	Vision		Blind 0	Deaths 0
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65+		Unimpaired 0	Impaired 0		
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	2	1	2	...	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio Myelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ant. Polio Myelitis ...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Deaths

Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality during 1941

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths		
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. F.
0 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1
5	1	1
10	2	...	1
15 ...	2	1	...	1	1
20 ...	2	1	...	1
25	4
35 ...	3	1	3	1	...
45	2
55	1
65 and upwards
Totals ...	7	11	1	4	4	5	1

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Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register at end of 1941:—

Pulmonary	M.	F.
Non-Pulmonary	23	37
	...	...	5	20

Proportion of non-notified Tuberculous Deaths to total: Nil

INSPECTION

During the year I have made routine inspections of the various premises that come under my powers, and special visits as occasion arose.

Unfit Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Various	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
							<hr/> 175

The F.A.P. at the Mount and the Cottage Hospital have been kept in readiness for the reception of Casualties due to Air Raids and other enemy action.

The details of the various premises to be inspected and the work done in connection therewith are set out fully in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector, and it is, therefore, unnecessary for me to recapitulate them.

In concluding my Report, I have to acknowledge the consideration always shown to me by the Council and valuable help received from my brother officials.

CHARLES J. EVERS, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1942.

BOROUGH OF FAVERSHAM

**SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
REPORT**

For the Year Ending December 31st, 1941

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH.

Your Worship and Gentlemen,—

The Minister of Health has intimated that reports for 1941 shall contain only essential matters. The following brief Report is submitted covering the principal items of Sanitary Inspector's work during the year.

HOUSING

Representations were made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1938, in respect of 8 houses at Whiting's Square, Ospringe Street, and 3 houses in West Street. After consideration the Council made Demolition Orders on each of the houses.

Two houses in Water Lane, Faversham (previously represented), have been demolished by the owners.

No routine inspections of houses were made under the regulations owing to the restrictions on materials. A large number of inspections, however, were made in investigating complaints, and in connection with closet accommodation and the provision of flushing cisterns.

Twenty-nine Statutory Notices were served under the Public Health Act, and in one instance the Council carried out the work in default of the owner.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The usual enquiries were made in connection with notified cases, and 58 rooms disinfected for various reasons.

WATER

Five samples of water were submitted to the County Analyst for chemical analysis, including three from the Public Supply. The reports received showed the water to be of good or excellent organic quality. In addition, six samples were taken from the Public Supply for bacteriological examination, all of which gave satisfactory results.

MEAT AND FOODS

The system of centralised slaughtering under the Government scheme has continued to work satisfactorily throughout the year, thus assisting meat inspection and the control of "doubtful" animals.

MEAT REGULATIONS

The particulars of work under the regulations, summarised for the year, are:—

ANIMALS INSPECTED

Beasts	...	...	...	...	...	435
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	153
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	3756
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	431
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	381
Total						5156

Five hundred and thirty-six inspections were made at the slaughterhouses, and 269 inspections at meat, fish, and other food shops.

The total amount of meat and organs surrendered on account of disease or unsound conditions was 8,020lbs. Other food inspections resulted in the surrender of 412lbs. of meat products, 193lbs. of fish, 1,724 eggs, and 287 tins of evaporated milk, making a total weight of 9,080lbs.

The number of animals found wholly or partly diseased was 383, while 50 per cent. of the total weight of meat and organs surrendered was on account of tuberculosis.

PARTICULARS OF CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

		Cattle, excluding			Sheep and	
		Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	...	435	153	431	3756	381
Number inspected	...					
All diseases except Tuberculosis—						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	2	1	—	20	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	87	24	8	141	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	20.45	16.34	1.85	4.28	5.24
Tuberculosis only—						
Whole carcasses condemned	...	1	4	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	18	28	2	—	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	... ..	4.36	20.91	.46	—	3.14

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

The following are on the register:—

Producers	...	...	...	...	6
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	10
Registered Premises	...	...	...	...	15

Ninety-seven inspections were made during the year.

The samples of milk taken during the year comprised:—

Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	5
T.T. and Accredited	...	...	...	...	18
Schools	...	...	...	...	2
Other	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>26</u>

One failed to satisfy the prescribed conditions, while four others were delayed in transit.

FACTORIES

The following premises are on the register:—

Factories (with power)	...	...	...	...	40
Factories (without power)	...	...	...	...	41
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>81</u>

One hundred and ten inspections were made, and no nuisances found. Eight retail bakehouses and seven factory bakehouses are included in the above total.

Two lists of Outworkers were received and entered in the above register.

DEFECTS AND NUISANCES**DEALT WITH UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH & HOUSING ACTS**

Choked and defective drains	...	...	...	...	70
Defective and insufficient closets	...	...	...	...	128
Flushing cisterns provided to closets	...	...	...	...	124
Damp walls	...	...	...	...	4
Insanitary sink wastes	...	...	...	...	3
Defective gutters	...	...	...	...	4
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	11
Defective flushing cisterns	...	...	...	...	12
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	...	9
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	7
Overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	20
Defective plastering	...	...	...	...	6
Various	...	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>402</u>

INSPECTIONS

Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	72
Premises, drains, etc.	...	...	...	...	339
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	536
Fish, food and meat shops, market	...	...	...	...	269
Cowsheds and dairies	...	...	...	...	97
Factories (including bakehouses)	...	...	...	...	133
Common lodging houses	...	...	...	...	23
Re-inspections, unfit houses, hop huts	...	...	...	...	1020
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>2489</u>

DEFECTS AND NUISANCES FOUND

During inspection of houses, etc.	...	...	...	...	402
Factories	...	...	...	...	<u>0</u>
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>402</u>

ACTION TAKEN

Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	152
Statutory Notices, P.H. Acts	...	...	...	...	<u>29</u>
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>181</u>

RESULTS

Defects and nuisances remedied, including those outstanding Dec. 31st, 1940	...	...	...	...	417
Defects and nuisances outstanding on Dec. 31st, 1941	...	...	...	...	<u>48</u>
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>465</u>

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE G. CULMER, M.R.SAN.INST., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

West Street, Faversham.
3rd February, 1942.